

REMARKS

Sheet 9/36 of the drawings has been replaced by the enclosed Replacement Sheet. Also enclosed is an Annotated Sheet Showing Changes to sheet 9/36 which shows that portions 27 and 57 are now properly identified in FIG. 4D as they are in FIG. 4C. Note that the configuration shown in FIGS. 4C-4D depict portions 27 and 57 everted around holding tabs 314a-b.

In the Amendment filed on March 23, 2004, reference is made to newly added claims and their coverage of non-elected species. Applicants request that upon allowance of the generic independent claims, that the newly added dependent claim directed to the non-elected species also be considered.

It is believed that the claims are patentable in their present form, and a prompt notice of allowance for this case is respectfully requested. If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of this application, please contact the undersigned attorney.

DATED this 30TH day of MARCH 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NO. 32642



Title: LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS APPARATUS
Inventors: Duane D. Blatter, Kenneth C. Goodrich, Michael C. Barrus and Bruce M. Burnett
Serial No. 09/736,937, Filed: December 14, 2000, Docket No.: 11502/15:1
ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

9 / 36

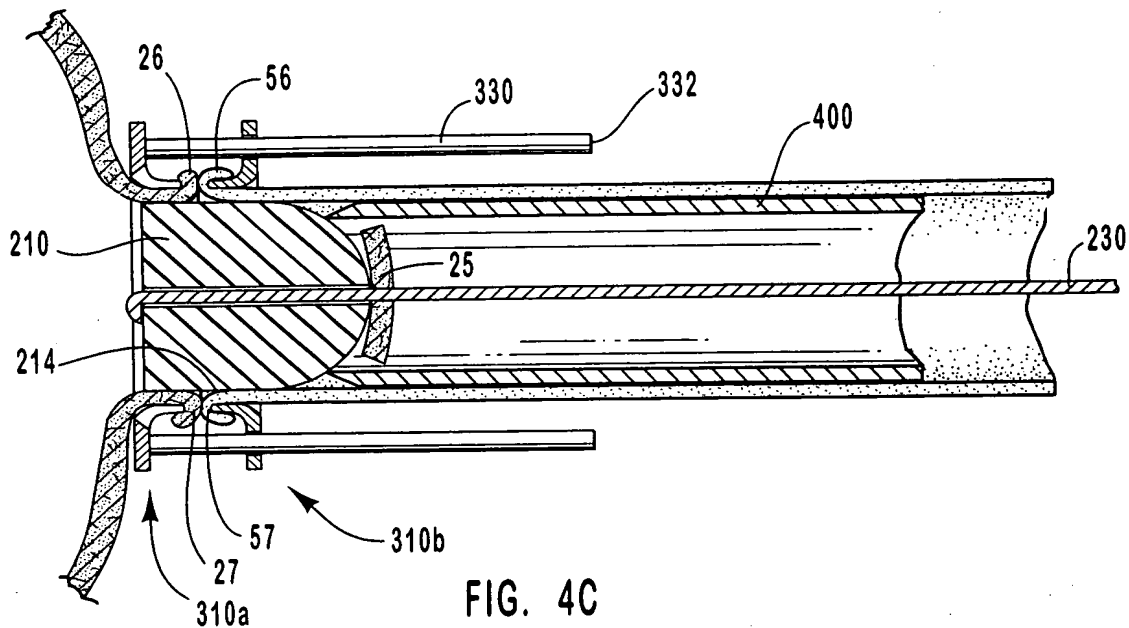


FIG. 4C

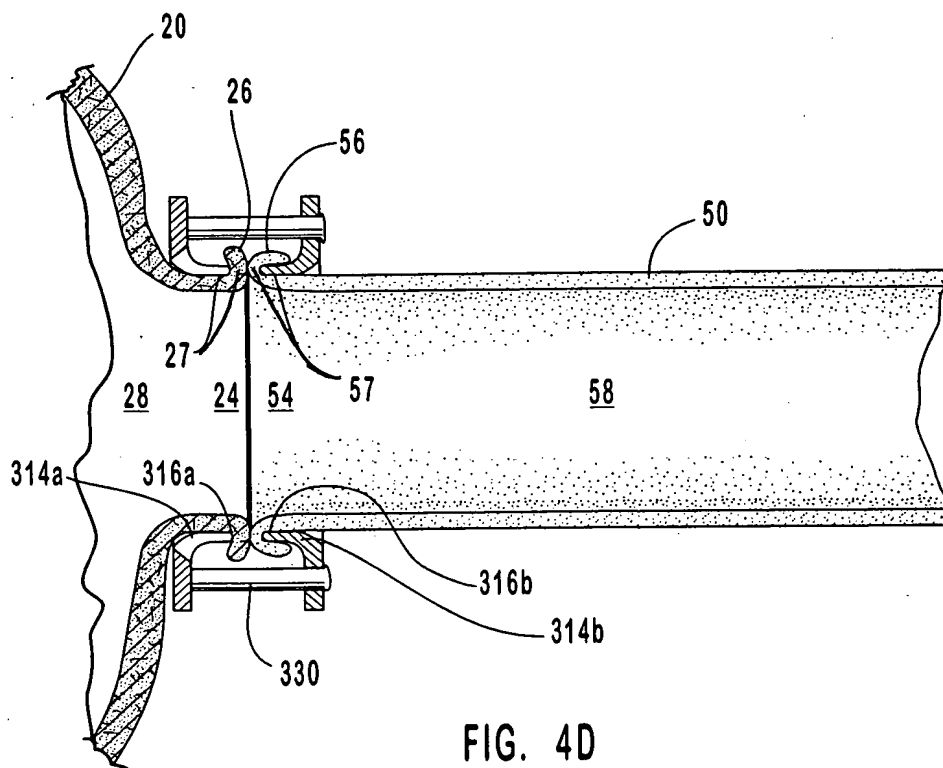


FIG. 4D